

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Sadato AKAHORI

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:Not Yet Assigned

Filed: November 14, 2001

MEDICAL IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND MEDICAL IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

English language abstracts of all foreign language documents are submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan J. Kasper

Registration No. 25,426

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213 Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

AJK/amt

Date: November 14, 2001

| Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 2-32) Patent & Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | | Atty. Docket No. Q67294 Applicant: Sadato AK | Serial No.: Confirmation No.: | | 10.5. PTO 10.5. PTO 14/01 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | Applicant. Datato Ato a Total | | | |
| | | | Filing Date: November 14, 2001 | Group: | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub- Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | ę |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| | Document | Date | Country | Class | Sub- class | Translation Yes/No |
| | 3-287248 8-294479 | 12/17/91 11/12/96 | JP JP | G03B A61B | 42/02 6/00 | |
| | 9-238933 | 09/16/97 | JP | A61B | 6/00 | |
| | | | | | | |
| - | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: